

Having been a member of the Writers Guild of America and a accredited producer in Hollywood for the past 30 years, I am appalled and alarmed at the FCC and it's lack of understanding of the public media and our basic rights and freedom of speech. I believe that I still live in the United States and that the laws effected to protect our rights to free broadcasting on the airwaves are being seriously challenged and threatened by your loosening of the laws that were established to protect our rights to freedom of speech on the radio and television. Corporate ownership of radio and TV will put controls on what we see and hear and over our way of life, our opinions, and our government and political future. In addition to forcing the public to hear and see what the 'corporation' wants us to, we will suffer greatly as a society that will be unable to express ourselves creatively as there will be no forum for us to do so. I suggest that the commissioner and his task force read the constitution of the United States and take a good look at what has happened in the Hollywood studios when corporations like Sony have taken over the "creative process" and attempted to make films under their corporate policies. It was a disaster and has ended the reign of giants like MGM! The American public does not want our public airwaves controlled by companies that want to use us for their own personal gain. We need localism in our media and always will to ensure that we indeed have the freedom to express our opinions as individuals. If we loosen the laws to give corporations this power over us as a society, we will no longer be a free people and this will no longer be America, the free! Do not give in the current administrations manipulations with our rights and freedoms. Take a good look at the way our current administration has controlled our news media during the war in Iraq. Placing reporters with troops to control what is shown and reported is a disgrace for our country and our soldiers. The Commissioner's absence at these hearings should speak SCREAM LOUDLY to the American people that his interest is not in what the public has to say but what the current adminstration is trying to do to our freedoms. Shame on you Mr. Commissioner for making a mockery of our democractic process and, shame on Mr. Bush for using our rights to lie to us! In time, the truth will told, as no one person can control the spirit of the people of America.